



June 1, 2020



# First Christian Church News

## (Disciples of Christ) Emporia, KS

VOLUME 69 NO. 12

JUNE 1, 2020

### SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST

Sunday School Summer Vacation  
Emporia Public Library Summer Reading  
81 Presents to Give Yourself

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### Reflections

By now, you are likely wondering when and how we will return to church, and I have good news for all of us. If projections are accurate, about 45 of us can enter the sanctuary on June 14. As we all know, however, our worship experience will look and feel quite different from what we are used to. This week, you will receive a separate email or mailing with important helpful information from our Task Force on Reopening.

While the instructions are clear and laid out in accordance with CDC guidelines and governmental mandates and recommendations, it may not be clear to everyone why we would like each person to social distance and wear a mask while in the church building. The most obvious reason is that social distancing, along with wearing a mask greatly reduces the spread of the virus.

My opinion may differ from someone else's. You may not agree with what I am about to say. Before I say more, please know that I understand that some folks have great difficulty wearing a mask as it is harder to breathe while wearing one. This health factor needs to be taken into consideration as we come back to church. I will wear a mask because I love you and I am able to wear one with no restriction. This action comes on the premise that if all who are able wear a mask wear one out of love for each other. Your safety is top priority for me. If I happen to be asymptomatic and unaware of it, I want you to be as protected as possible.

The underlying teaching in all of Jesus' stories and lessons was love. He said, "love your neighbor as yourself" (Mark 12:31). "A new commandment I give to you, that you love one another: just as I have loved you, you also are to love one another. By this all people will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another" (John 13:34-35). Love looks like the Samaritan helping the stranger on the road (Luke 12:13-21). Love looks like a father accepting his lost son's return home (Luke 15:11-32). "No one has greater love than this, to lay down one's life for one's friends." (John 15:13). "Let all that you do be done in love"(1 Corinthians 16:14).

As we continue to imagine what it will be like as we return to church, let us be in prayer for each one that our actions will be out of our love for one another. We are responsible to care for each other and may our actions reflect the love of God.

"Beloved, I pray that all may go well with you and that you may be in good health, just as it is with your soul" (3 John:2).

Be well and safe. I look forward to seeing you soon,

*Pastor Lorraine*

**Join us for At Home Worship**

**At Home Worship on Facebook**

Find us on Facebook at **First Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) of Emporia, KS** to join us for worship at 10:30 a.m. on Sundays!

**At Home Worship via Email**

You are encouraged to open your email at 10:30 a.m. to be part of our worshipping community. Just sign-in and let us know you are with us. If you would like to be added to our e-mail worship service, send us an e-mail at [fccoffices@yahoo.com](mailto:fccoffices@yahoo.com) to let us know!



**Upcoming Serving Schedule**



**June 7, 2020—1st Sunday after Pentecost**

**Elder** ~ Jean Miller  
**Worship Leader** ~ Marlene Hanson  
**Children’s Message** ~ Marlene Hanson

**June 14, 2020—2nd Sunday after Pentecost**

**Elder** ~ Cameron Moore  
**Worship Leader** ~ Judy Moore  
**Children’s Message** ~ Laurie Kurzen

**June 21, 2020—3rd Sunday after Pentecost**

**Elder** ~ Judy Moore  
**Worship Leader** ~ Janece Bacon  
**Children’s Message** ~ Barb Gimple

**Lonnie Atchison** (*cancer*); **Lea Beers** (*medical*); **Glenn Boyce** (*medical*); **Lisa Cress** (*uterine cancer*); **Lynn Cress** (*heart surgery*); **Marilyn Dalton** (*sprained ankle*); **Wanda Davis** (*hip rehab*); **Joe Denson**, (*hip surgery*); **Brooke Franklin** (*cancer*); **Brad Jones** (*heart problems*); **Steve & Ramona Langley** (*brother-in-law and sister of Betty Richardson*); **Joe Lozier** (*brain tumor, father of Jen Dalton*); **Steve Martin** (*stem cell cancer treatment*); **Jeanice Miller** (*sciatic nerve pain*); **Betty Pierson** (*medical*); **David Smith** (*cousin of Jeanice Miller, diabetic amputation*); **Andrea Vandruff** (*kidney issues*); and **Aubrey Wescott** (*stomach problems*).



**Attendance and Giving Record**

**ATTENDANCE & GIVING RECORD**

May 24, 2020 At Home Worship 44+  
May 31, 2020 At Home Worship 37+

**GIVING RECORD**

May 17, 2020 ~ Offering \$1,455.00 / Building \$10.00  
 May 24, 2020 ~ Offering \$3,595.00 / Building \$10.00



**June Anniversaries**

- 17 Joe & Bonnie Denson
- 17 Kenny & Jeanice Miller
- 21 Carl & Lana Richardson
- 29 John & Marie Harding
- 30 Joe & Dana Witten

**June Birthdays**

- 02 Katelyn Hess
- 03 Kurt Steinkuhler
- 04 Gary Lukert
- 04 Harold Stevenson
- 05 Elizabeth Ketchum
- 10 Jeffry Cole
- 10 Bonnie Denson
- 11 Tony Milner
- 12 Ryan O’Grady
- 13 Jim Tilton
- 14 Sarah Richardson
- 20 Mary Ann Law
- 22 Carol Rohling
- 22 Joy Wonser
- 28 Jake Dalton
- 29 June Rochat



**THE SECRET PLACE**

**Devotions for Daily Worship**  
 The **Summer 2020**  
**(June, July, August)**  
**Secret Place daily devotional**  
**books**  
 have arrived and are located on  
 the hall table.  
 Still only **\$1.00 per**  
**copy so get yours**  
**today!**



**Mark The Dates**

Until further notice, all scheduled “in-person” meetings are cancelled. Alternative meeting methods such as conference calls, meetings on Zoom, meetings through email, etc. will be used.

**Lectionary Schedule**

**June 7—July 12, 2020**

**June 7, 2020—1st Sunday after**

**Pentecost**

Genesis 1:1-2:4a  
 Psalm 8  
 2 Corinthians 13:11-13  
 Matthew 28:16-20

**June 14, 2020—2nd Sunday after**

**Pentecost**

Genesis 18:1-15, (21:1-7)  
 Psalm 116:1-2, 12-19  
 Romans 5:1-8  
 Matthew 9:35-10:8, (9-23)

**June 21, 2020—3rd Sunday after Pentecost**

Genesis 21:8-21  
 Psalm 86:1-10, 16-17  
 Romans 6:1b-11  
 Matthew 10:24-39

**June 28, 2020—4th Sunday after Pentecost**

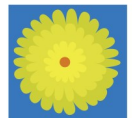
Genesis 22:1-14  
 Psalm 13  
 Romans 6:12-23  
 Matthew 10:40-42

**July 5, 2020—5th Sunday after Pentecost**

Genesis 24:34-38, 42-49, 58-67  
 Psalm 45:10-17  
 or Song of Solomon 2:8-13  
 Romans 7:15-25a  
 Matthew 11:16-19, 25-30

**July 12, 2020—6th Sunday after Pentecost**

Genesis 25:19-34  
 Psalm 119:105-112  
 Romans 8:1-11  
 Matthew 13:1-9, 18-23





## Sunday School Summer Vacation

Pre-School through Youth Classes

School Classes are taking a Summer Vacation beginning June 7 through August 16.

Pre-School through Youth Sunday School classes will resume August 23.

## Emporia Public Library Summer Reading Online

Beginning June 1, Emporia Public Library's 2020 Summer Reading Challenges for all ages will be available online! The library's new Beanstack Reading Challenge Website and Mobile App makes it easy to earn virtual badges, tickets for drawings, and real-world prizes by keeping track of reading. Readers can also post book reviews and keep track of activities completed.

Register in seconds at [emporialibrary.beanstack.org](https://emporialibrary.beanstack.org). Library staff will be available to answer questions via our main phone number, 620-340-6462.

Readers can also download the "Beanstack Tracker" app. With the Beanstack App, readers can time reading sessions, log books by scanning the ISBN numbers, keep a log of current and past reading, track daily reading stats, and achieve streaks for reading multiple days in a row!

For further information about 2020 Summer Reading Online and Emporia Public Library's services, visit [www.emporialibrary.org](https://www.emporialibrary.org). If you need a library card to get access to all online resources or have a question, email [epl@emporialibrary.org](mailto:epl@emporialibrary.org)

For more information, please contact Youth Services Coordinator Heller at [hellerl@emporialibrary.org](mailto:hellerl@emporialibrary.org).

### Thoughts to Ponder

- Prayer is a conversation, not a monologue.
- God gives the hardest tests to the strongest students.
- A mind of peace is better than a piece of mind.
- If you are helping someone and expect something in return, you are doing business, not kindness.
- Acting perfect in church is like dressing up for an X-ray.
- Do small things in a big way.
- “Love in moderation” (said no one ever).

### 81 Presents to Give Yourself

- Walk instead of ride
- Give yourself a compliment
- Break a bad habit, if just for today
- Search out a long-lost friend
- Read a poem aloud
- Look at the stars
- Visit a shut-in
- Be thankful
- Use a new word
- Frame a picture
- Enjoy silence
- Walk to the nearest park
- Forget an old grudge
- Take yourself to lunch
- Help a stranger
- Try a new food
- Go to the library
- Take a risk
- Jump in a pile of leaves
- Tell someone you love him or her
- Take a rainy day nap
- Sign up for a class
- Do something you’ve always wanted to do
- Contact someone you’ve been thinking about
- Meditate
- Learn something new
- Surprise a child
- Hug someone
- Sing in the shower
- List 10 things you do well
- Walk in the rain
- Pay a compliment
- Give away something you don’t like
- Waste a little time
- Curl up before an open fire with some cocoa
- Buy a ticket to a special event
- Return something you’ve borrowed
- Organize some small corner of your life
- Pop popcorn
- Turn off the TV and talk

*\*Continued on next page*

## 81 Presents to Give Yourself

- Draw a picture, even if you can't draw
  - Practice courage in one small way
  - Keep a secret
  - Eat with chopsticks
  - Go wading
  - Bake bread
  - Smell a flower
  - Kiss someone
  - Send a card to someone for no reason
  - Clean out your wallet
  - Take an early morning walk
  - Laugh at yourself
  - Tell a joke
  - Look at old photos
  - Walk barefoot
  - Talk to a pet
  - Visit a lonely person
  - Go for a swim
  - Give yourself a present
  - Build a sandcastle
  - Follow an impulse
  - Write a poem
  - Start a new project
  - Volunteer some time to a good cause
  - Have breakfast in bed
  - Reread your favorite book
  - Give your dog a bone
  - Take a different road to get home
  - Watch the sun set
  - Let someone do you a favor
  - Allow yourself to make a mistake
  - Hide a love note where a loved one will find it
  - Make a surprise gift
  - Go to a fair
  - Lie on the grass
  - Do something hard to do
  - Rearrange a room
  - Get up before anyone else
  - Let someone love you
  - Hum
- Anonymous



**First Christian Church**  
**Lorraine W. Bailey,**  
**Transitional Minister**



**“The mission of First Christian Church is to inspire each other to reach out to the un-churched and to serve and share with our community by proclaiming the Gospel of Jesus Christ.”**

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 Pastor: Rev. Lorraine Bailey  
 Email: [pastorlorraine@gmail.com](mailto:pastorlorraine@gmail.com)

**Office Hours**

**8 a.m. until Noon, Monday through Friday.**  
**Pastor Lorraine—8:00 am to 11:00 am, Tuesday through Friday. Afternoons by appointment.**



**Next Newsletter Deadline**  
**June 15, 2020 & June 29, 2020**



**June 2020**

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
31 Pentecost Special Offering • 8:30am Diaconate Meets • 10:30am At Home Worship	1 Newsletter Deadline	2 • 4:30pm Bible Study	3 • 10:30am DWF Day Group • 10:30am Lyon Co. Ministerial Alliance • 5:30pm DWF Night Group	4 • 5pm Leadership Team	5	6
7 Pentecost Special Offering • 10:30am At Home Worship	8	9 • 4:30pm Bible Study	10 • 9:30am NE KS Clergy-Topoka • 6:15pm Stewardship Committee Meets	11 • 5pm Elder's Study	12	13
14 • 10:30am At Home Worship	15 Newsletter Deadline	16 • 4:30pm Bible Study	17 • 5pm Worship Ministry Meets • 6:15pm Board Meeting	18 • 5pm Christian Ed.	19 • 8:30am CWU Friendship Coffee	20

**Spotlight on Disciples**

Information for this article came from the book, *Disciples: Who We Are & What Holds Us Together* (2019) by Michael Kinnamon and Jan Linn, St. Louis: Christian Board of Publication, pp. 11-13.

**Covenant: Freedom with Accountability (part 1)**

Back in 1809 when Thomas Campbell felt a “passionate urgency” to write the *Declaration and Address*, most experienced the church as a place where lay people did not have a true voice. Campbell felt that all the people in the church had “the inalienable right of all laymen [and laywomen] to examine the sacred writings for themselves.” (Alexander Campbell in the *Democratization of American Christianity*). Thomas Campbell wrote:

Resume that precious, that dear bought, liberty wherewith Christ has made his people free; a liberty from subjection to any authority but his own, in matters of religion. Call no man father, no man master on earth; for one is your master, even Christ, and all ye are brethren. Standfast, therefore, in this precious liberty, and be not entangled again in the yoke of bondage (*Declaration and Address*).

It was important to our founders that the church stands for unity, but to not mistake uniformity for unity. It remains important to Disciples today that we find unity in our diversity. Our key identity remains as affirmation of liberty, and opposition to coercion. Kinnamon and Linn make it clear that the challenge of the Disciples church is “. . . to find a middle ground, a foundation for being church, that promotes accountability without coercion, that calls church members to obedience to the gospel as articulated in community while still making plenty of room for dialogue, diversity, and dissent.” In other words, we are in covenant with God and with each other (community) and are accountable to both, yet free to question and discuss our own interpretations.

*More next time on the meaning of covenant. . .*